

March 15, 2004Appln. No. 109/552,564
Amd. dated June 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of January 28, 2004

REMARKS

The Examiner's action dated April 28, 2004, has been received and its contents carefully noted.

The indication of allowability of claims 13-15, 39 and 50-52 is noted with appreciation.

In order to place this application in *prima facie* allowable condition, the application claims have been limited to those that the Examiner considers to be allowable. Thus, claim 13 has been placed in independent form by incorporation of its subject matter into parent claim 1, claim 39 has been placed in independent form by incorporation of its subject matter into parent claim 38, and claim 50 has been placed in independent form by incorporation therein of all of the subject matter of parent claim 38.

In the Examiner's statement indicating allowable subject matter, it was indicated that the claims would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. However, the only rejection on that ground presented in the action was directed to claim 37, which has been canceled by the present amendment. In other words, none of allowable claims 13-15, 39 or 50-52 was previously rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

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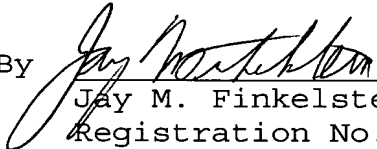
In view of the present amendments, it is believed that this application is now in *prima facie* allowable condition, and an early Notice of Allowance is requested.

If the above amendment should not now place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call undersigned counsel to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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